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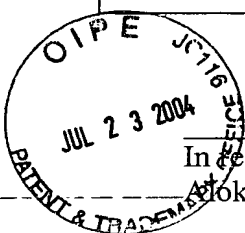
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER147058655US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 23, 2004

Signature: Elena Maglitta

(Elena M. Maglitta)

Docket No.: HO-P01709US6
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Atok Nigam

Application No.: 10/047,726

Art Unit: 3738

Filed: January 15, 2002

Examiner: H. Phan

For: CORNEAL IMPLANT AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURE

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 1-28-04

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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JUL 29 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated January 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.